THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) & (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Education for children of labourers

4365. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the children of slum dwellers/ migrant labourers who come to Capital, are denied admission in Government Schools, for want of ration cards or birth certificates; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in regard thereto and the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per the information received from the Government of NCT of Delhi, affidavits from parents/guardians of the children of slum dwellers/labourers and other deprived sections of the society are accepted for admissions in the Delhi Government schools.

(b) The question does not arise.

Pilot project for universal secondary education

4366.SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any pilot project has been launched by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, to achieve universal secondary education;

(b) the details of the pilot projects, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds provided to NIEPA to come up with plans for secondary education; and

(d) the past track record of NIEPA in the educational sector?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) had organised a national conference on secondary education from 14-16, February, 2001 and Rs.3.00 lakhs were sanctioned to NIEPA for this Conference. NIEPA is a premier resource organisation fully funded by the Government. Its objectives include promotion of research in educational planning and administration, providing training and consultancy services, training and orientation of key level functionaries and senior administrators from the Centre and States and to collaborate with other agencies in the education sector.

Setting up of Astrology Institute

4367. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish an Astrology Institute in the name of Prithvi Raj Chauhan, to impart under-graduate and post-graduate level courses at the university level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the grant proposed to be given for a suitable memorial for Prithvi Raj Chauhan for his heroism and valour against the aggressors?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) According to the information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), there is no such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Urdu Education

†4368 SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for development of Urdu education in the country;

(b) the names of districts and blocks in Bihar that have been provided funds by Government for Urdu education;

(c) whether Muzaffarpur district of the State has been provided economic assistance for Urdu education; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.